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(*b*) if so, what the proposals are and how many of them have been implemented by the management?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

Free distribution of milk powder, etc., in the slum areas in the city.

* 2238 *Q.*—SRI M. PALANIYANDI (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal for the free distribution of (*a*) milk powder and (*b*) contraceptive devices in the slum areas of the Madras City?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" UNICEF gift skim milk powder is being distributed to malnourished children and expectant and nursing mothers in the city including slum areas attending the Corporation maternity and child welfare centres.

There is no proposal for the free distribution of contraceptive devices in the slum areas of Madras City. In the Family Planning Clinics run by the Madras Corporation, contraceptives costing Rs. 4–8–0 per set are supplied at a subsidized rate of annas eight per set."

Harijans promoted as Deputy Tahsildars.

* 2239 *Q.*—SRI R. S. ARUMUGAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the number of Harijan candidates promoted as Deputy Tahsildars from 1950 onwards?

THE HON. SRI M. A MANICKAVELU :—" One in South Kanara in 1951, one in Madurai in 1953 and one in North Arcot in 1954."

SRI V. S. SIVAPRAKASAM :—" In view of the fact that the number of Harijans holding these posts of Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars in the Revenue Subordinate Service is very negligible taking this State as a whole and also in view of the fact that there is no possibility of recruiting Harijans to these Subordinate Services by departmental promotion in the near future, will the Government consider the necessity and desirability of appointing Harijans to these Revenue Subordinate Services by direct recruitment since there are several suitable Harijan graduates and double graduates who are unemployed? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Sir, I will come to direct recruitment later. As regards the other question, there are only four qualified men, out of which three have been selected. About the fourth, probably on a question of merit or ability, he has not been selected. Anyway, I have no information on that. As for direct recruitment, for certain categories, direct recruitments are being made. Since there is provision for promotion, I do not think there is necessity for direct recruitment."